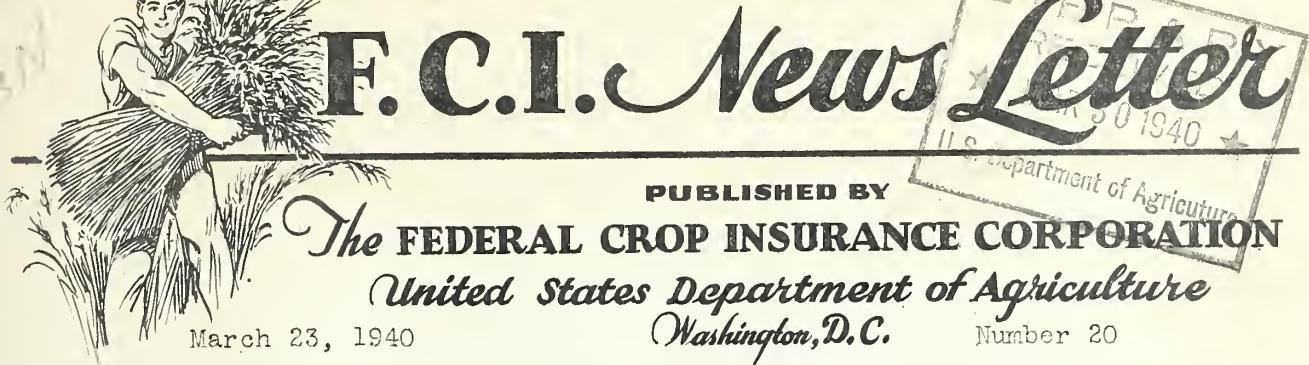


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The FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
United States Department of Agriculture

March 23, 1940

Washington, D.C.

Number 20

News Letter is designed to inform field workers of the AAA and FCIC of developments in the crop insurance program and is not for general distribution.

NEARLY 377,000 GROWERS

HAVE PAID 1940 PREMIUMS

The sign-up for all-risk insurance on the wheat crop to be harvested in 1940 is all over but the counting. So far the counting has reached the high figure of 376,507 but with the pace that has been kept since February 29, it looks as though the total sign-up will rub quite hard the under side of 400,000.

Incomplete figures show that Montana and New Mexico are the only States that have not equaled their last year's record. In 1939 Montana had 5,133 insured farmers compared with 4,092 so far this year; New Mexico 109 in '39 and 62 in '40. Utah, North Dakota, Illinois, Maryland, and Virginia all equalled or bettered their participation over 1939. California, Minnesota, South Dakota, Colorado, Iowa, New York, and Pennsylvania approximately doubled last year's participation. Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Texas, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and New Jersey trebled last year's participation. Kansas, Nebraska, and Idaho got approximately four times as many paid-up applications this year as they had in 1939. Delaware had 79 last year and 456 this. Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina, with no participation at all last year, came through with 980, 246, and 202 paid-up applications, respectively.

Complete figures as of March 7, on the sign-up in each State, the amount of premiums paid in, the estimated insured acreage and insured production are given in the table on the next page.

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OKLAHOMA FARMERS PREFER

A CROP TO INDEMNITIES

After making a tour of several counties around Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, State Crop Insurance Supervisor J. Carl Wright says that even though prospects for a wheat crop are poor in some sections, very few farmers have asked that a loss adjustment be made on their insured acreage. He points out that farmers are preferring to give the crop every opportunity to make a fair yield rather than ask for an adjustment at the present time.

Mr. Wright states that the present price of wheat is causing many farmers to try to produce the best crop possible. He says that farmers are also seriously considering the fact that crop insurance yields are based on actual yields. As a result, farmers realize the necessity of producing the best yields possible rather than ask for an adjustment while there is still some hope of getting even a small crop.

BRANCH OFFICE REPORT ON 1940 PREMIUM COLLECTIONS AS OF MARCH 14, 1940

State	Premiums	Premium	Estimated	Insured
	collected number	payments bushels	Acres	Production bushels
<u>Spokane</u>				
California	2,152	168,800	165,309	2,329,546
Idaho	6,795	143,491	166,253	2,893,253
Nevada	107	2,113	1,866	36,909
Oregon	2,011	229,546	241,607	3,300,840
Utah	623	24,014	26,227	346,451
Washington	3,623	236,272	350,579	5,497,993
Total	15,311	804,236	951,841	14,405,082
<u>Minneapolis</u>				
Wisconsin	560	3,237	3,285	38,360
Minnesota	21,233	354,871	340,933	3,356,587
North Dakota	31,006	1,976,585	1,457,348	10,503,085
South Dakota	19,907	1,097,188	573,809	3,813,220
Montana	4,092	535,018	287,980	2,202,539
Wyoming	1,249	127,868	83,527	525,191
Total	78,047	4,094,768	2,746,882	20,438,982
<u>Kansas City</u>				
Missouri	21,664	270,902	352,634	3,532,565
Nebraska	56,874	2,104,160	1,258,643	13,114,010
Kansas	60,502	3,978,930	2,863,090	23,792,285
Oklahoma	23,380	915,347	977,598	8,393,120
Texas	11,020	1,109,189	705,464	4,933,750
Colorado	3,204	246,955	138,005	971,820
New Mexico	62	12,817	6,279	34,210
Total	176,706	8,638,300	6,301,713	54,771,760
<u>Chicago</u>				
Illinois	14,884	231,442	244,238	2,976,609
Indiana	28,389	307,065	311,653	3,943,333
Iowa	7,174	105,647	93,499	1,234,477
Kentucky	980	16,006	15,920	160,589
Michigan	15,958	93,359	131,375	1,882,604
Ohio	28,770	323,414	287,913	4,001,624
Tennessee	246	3,098	4,973	42,969
Total	96,401	1,080,031	1,089,571	14,242,205
<u>Washington, D. C.</u>				
New York	911	6,429	9,489	137,373
New Jersey	111	644	1,288	19,513
Pennsylvania	5,912	39,823	72,626	1,106,905
Maryland	1,274	16,242	31,348	438,348
Delaware	456	4,588	9,176	117,379
Virginia	1,176	10,451	20,883	258,037
North Carolina	202	999	2,013	20,088
Total	10,042	79,176	146,825	2,097,643
GRAND TOTAL	376,507	14,696,511	11,236,830	105,955,672

COUNTY COMMITTEES ARE READY

TO ADJUST 1940 WHEAT LOSSES

Printed copies of the 1940 Loss Adjustment Procedure and of the various forms that are to be used in making adjustments and settlements this year have been distributed. The procedure and forms are now being put to use in some of the winter wheat counties where total losses due to severe fall drought have already been reported. Numerous counties throughout the winter wheat belt are holding meetings to familiarize crop insurance workers with the procedure to be followed in settling claims so that there will be no delay in the adjustment of early total or substantially total losses.

In line with other changes which tend to "streamline" the 1940 program only four forms will be required to carry out the loss adjustment phase this year where ten were used last year. A little $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$ -inch card entitled "Request for Inspection of Insured Crop," Form FCI-8--Wheat-1940, will, in effect, take the place of last year's Form FCI-7, "Notice of Damage During Growing Season," and Form FCI-8, "Notice Before Harvest, Removal, Transfer, or Other Use of Wheat Crop." Form FCI-61, "Adjuster's Work List," and Form FCI-62, "Adjuster's Daily Report," have been eliminated. Form FCI-63, "Inspection Report," by rearranging it so that the adjuster may write his narrative report on the back side, will take the place of last year's Forms FCI-64, 65, 68, and 69. Form FCI-66, "Adjuster's Work Sheet," and Form FCI-67, "Statement in Proof of Loss," will be used again this year with some modification.

An improvement in the 1940 adjustment procedure is an option feature whereby an insured grower may request a "deferred settlement." If a grower wishes to postpone the settlement of his claim, as might be the case in a rising market, he may ask for a deferred settlement, and request payment on notice at any time within 90 days. In such cases the cash value of the claim will be computed on the basis of the price in effect the day such a notice is received by the branch office. In cases where insured growers ask for immediate settlement, the prices used to determine the cash equivalent will be those in effect on the date the claim was approved by the branch office rather than those in effect on the date of approval by the county adjuster as was the case last year.

Initial distribution of all adjustment forms has been made to State AAA offices, from which point they will be relayed to county offices as needed. A considerable saving in printing can be effected if county offices will report any surplusage of forms to the State office as soon as all 1940 adjustments have been made.

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MONTANA COUNTY AGENT

"GOES TO BAT" FOR FCI Charlie Jarrett, county agent and secretary of the AAA committee in Valley County, Mont., expresses himself plainly and to the point in a special bulletin for distribution to farmers in his county. He says in part:

"Suppose you don't have a crop this year, suppose seed loans are cut for 1941; all forms of relief might be cut down -- the AAA program cut out or at least payments reduced. These are not too far fetched either. Put that right

ear of yours to the ground and listen to some of the grumbling and roaring that is going on. Do we want crop insurance? If we don't, let her slip another year or so and we won't have it. That is one protection we will be losing pronto too.

"Have you stopped to think of crop insurance over a period of twenty years instead of one or two years? Have you ever seen an insurance that would protect you against everything but poor workmanship, like crop insurance will? If there was a half section of good land adjoining you on the south and you knew it would assure you a livelihood, wouldn't you -- and you would -- buy it regardless of price, by hook or by crook? That's what crop insurance is for, to assure you of an income.

"Do you know that Montana's loss under the crop insurance program for 1939 was 160 percent? Did you know that some counties in Montana paid as high as three times the amount of premiums collected in 1939, under crop insurance?

"You are coming to a railroad crossing, Mister. STOP--LOOK-- and LISTEN, and then figure every angle, not just tomorrow but next year and the next ten, fifteen years hence. If you knew that two bushels would give you seed, grub stake, and pay the taxes next year, you would seed it wouldn't you, instead of half a bushel? That is what crop insurance does for you. Men, we can't ask for things, get them, and then not at least give them a try."

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WASHINGTON BRANCH AREA

HAS ONLY 4 TOTAL LOSSES Of the 445 claims for indemnities by wheat growers in the Washington Branch area, only four were for total losses to the 1939 crop. Two of these were caused by fire, one by hail, and the other by winter freezing and, of all things, deer infestation. The largest of these losses occurred on the farm of J. A. Hunter of New Hope, Va. Mr. Hunter's insured production was 958 bushels on 60 acres for which he paid a premium of \$18.75. On June 13 when Mr. Hunter was getting ready to harvest his crop a hail storm came along and did the job for him, slick and clean. On June 22 the Corporation approved a payment of \$814.30 covering the total loss.

One of the fire losses occurred on the farm of Jennie A. Giesler of Frederick, Md. She had insured 7 acres to produce 89 bushels. The premium amounted to \$2.50. The wheat had been harvested and was stored in the barn to be threshed but on July 14 the barn was totally destroyed by fire along with the unthreshed wheat. The indemnity amounted to \$53.84. The other fire loss involved an insured production of 212 bushels on 36 acres. The premium was \$5.40. This crop also had been stored in the barn to be threshed but the barn and wheat burned on July 20. This was a landlord-tenant case and they each received an indemnity payment of \$69.96.

Practically every hazard on the list took some toll in the eastern area in 1939. Drought caused 43 percent of the losses, winterkill 27 percent, frost 9 percent, heavy spring rains 7 percent, hail 5 percent, insects 3 percent, plant disease 2 percent, flood, fire, and other miscellaneous hazards the remaining 4 percent.

DEDUCTIONS ARE MADE

FOR AVOIDABLE DAMAGE In response to a query to the Kansas City branch office to determine what attention was being given to claims for loss on the 1939 crop where all or part of the damage was caused by the act of any person or persons some specific cases were cited. The following are several of those given:

Case No. 1. - Total insured production 145 bushels on 20.2 acres; a loss of 64 bushels was claimed. The Statement in Proof of Loss indicated some damage on a 14-acre field from livestock which belonged to the farm. A 14-bushel deduction was made under Part I, Item 2, of Form FCI-67--Wheat 1939.

Case No. 2. - Total insured production 62 bushels on 7.3 acres; a loss of 36 bushels was claimed. The Statement in Proof of Loss indicated that one-half acre was totally destroyed by the insured's chickens. The loss was estimated at 8 bushels and a deduction was made accordingly in Item 2 of Form FCI-67.

Case No. 3. - Total insured production was 56 bushels on 7.9 acres; a 12-bushel loss was claimed but was not allowed because it was determined that defective seed had been used. A deduction of 12 bushels was made under Item 8 of FCI-67.

Case No. 4. - Total insured production 6,658 bushels on 353 acres; a loss of 2,823 bushels was claimed. The facts indicate that the insured in 1938 allowed wheat to volunteer on his land and harvested the same before plowing for his 1939 crop. The loss was therefore determined to be 8.0 bushels per acre instead of 11.72. A deduction of 1,328 bushels was made under Item 8 of FCI-67 for damage from causes not insured against.

Case No. 5. - Total insured production 136 bushels on 5.7 acres; a loss of 91 bushels was claimed. Twenty-five percent of the damage claimed was determined to be due to the failure of the operator to water the wheat when water was available to do so. A deduction of 45 bushels was made in Item 8 for damage from causes not insured against.

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Stored in the Nation's Ever-Normal Granary are about 300 million bushels of wheat over and above domestic requirements.

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Wheat is an important source of cash income to more than one million farmers in the United States.

HOPPER EGGS ARE HATCHING

IN SOUTHWESTERN STATES

Grasshopper eggs have begun to hatch in the extreme southwestern wheat States. Grasshoppers will be a serious threat this year to wheat fields in sections of Kansas and Nebraska and in these two States the Corporation has its greatest stake in the growing wheat crop. 'Hoppers threaten to do serious damage to the wheat crop in other sections of the Great Plains. Fortunately, grasshopper damage can be reduced tremendously through the cooperative efforts of State and Federal agencies. Most important of all, of course, is the cooperation of farmers themselves.

Crop insurance workers should not hesitate to tell insured wheat growers that a crop insurance contract protects their crop only if they make a reasonable effort to cooperate in local 'hopper-control campaigns. According to a plan of operation for cooperative grasshopper control for the crop year 1940 the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine asserts that "The local utilization of bait material by farmers can be directed to the best advantage by the Extension Service through its various county agents, except in a few instances where State pest control agencies maintain an adequate pest control staff . . . The Bureau (of Entomology and Plant Quarantine) will make contacts and recommendations and give technical advice to all participating agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture, and will undertake to cooperate with any other agency of the Federal Government participating in the program."

To show how effective the spreading of poison bait was in 1939 reference is made to the table on page 7.

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NORTH DAKOTA PARTICIPATION

EXCEEDS LAST YEAR'S RECORD

From continued efforts to secure a good sign-up in North Dakota came a poem and gratifying participation in the crop insurance program. The poem, composed by Alice Westlund of the Grand Forks County office, was sent in by W. P. MacDonald, State crop insurance assistant, with a letter in which he said: "You may assume that we explored every avenue and left no stone unturned in pushing the application sign-up . . . We have no report as to the number of applications which have been written except our weekly report of last Saturday, February 24, which showed 21,000 applications. We are still optimistic enough to expect to reach our 1939 goal." Editor's note: The total 1939 sign-up in North Dakota was 28,050. The 1940 sign-up was 31,006 as of March 14, with the tide still coming in. The poem referred to above runs as follows:

ATTENTION! FARMERS.

Farmers! Hear ye, farmers hear!
The deadline date is drawing near
To get insurance on your wheat
So hurry to the county seat.

Under the brazen, cloudless sky
You've watched your wheatfields
fade and die.
A sudden hail has mowed it down
While you looked on with heartsick
frown.

When your wheat has all been seeded
Rains won't fall when they are needed.
Hoppers swarm from far away --
Spores of rust drift in to stay.

For farm and fireside more secure
Your best bet is to now insure.
The deadline comes but once a year
So insure now -- the way is clear.

-- Alice Westlund.

ESTIMATED USES OF BAIT, COSTS OF MIXED BAIT, SAVINGS AND LOSSES OF CROPS
FROM REPORTS OF STATE LEADERS FOR GRASSHOPPER CONTROL JANUARY 1, 1940

(Table compiled by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine)

State	Farmers Using Bait	Tons of Bait Used(dry)	No. of Acres Baited	Approx. Protected Cost	Value Crops Saved	Value Lost	Dollars Saved for Each Dollar Spent
Arizona	699	387	59,283	\$ 111,881	\$ 6,192	\$ 960,600	\$ 165,780: \$155
Arkansas	850	142	15,974	63,896	2,272	108,710	31,036: 48
California	4,141	1,827	422,494	3,074,798	29,932	9,782,294	1,024,594: 327
Colorado	15,039	17,275	3,455,000	8,800,043	276,400	15,316,781	6,519,164: 55
Idaho	1,742	432	93,699	226,388	6,912	1,029,734	317,422: 149
Illinois	334	102	6,224	4,941	1,632	42,304	69,279: 26
Iowa	8,671	851	338,501	1,081,059	13,616	974,059	879,817: 72
Kansas	13,394	4,400	880,000	3,159,638	70,100	3,688,468	3,157,860: 52
Michigan	7,373	1,004	179,804	460,989	16,064	635,492	190,117: 40
Minnesota	38,400	16,272	2,048,176	6,000,000	260,352	12,618,054	2,443,848: 48
Missouri	1,546	115	23,900	40,000	1,840	250,000	125,000: 136
Montana	9,583	25,787	2,293,912	3,378,935	412,522	7,815,429	2,867,923: 19
Nebraska	60,567	14,229	3,410,838	5,228,085	228,784	16,929,112	9,134,032: 74
Nevada	483	491	61,425	63,679	7,856	797,647	261,611: 102
New Mexico	2,226	8,505	1,112,121	5,441,925	136,080	1,967,948	103,750: 14
North Dakota	28,406	30,216	3,820,752	4,067,751	483,456	20,891,421	8,283,472: 43
Oklahoma	3,240	1,791	358,200	1,035,436	28,656	2,011,415	345,880: 70
Oregon	257	145	19,214	278,106	2,320	296,067	87,647: 128
South Dakota	18,500	15,764	3,565,995	3,268,957	252,224	7,408,839	8,830,924: 29
Texas	6,093	6,012	1,368,060	4,118,949	96,192	4,053,467	548,306: 42
Utah	3,301	333	66,000	169,860	5,328	674,286	543,891: 127
Washington	499	32	7,304	59,705	512	72,951	36,835: 142
Wisconsin	6,297	1,193	87,041	1,831,292	19,088	17,726,131	1,451,033: 929
Wyoming	3,834	6,506	1,213,556	4,569,441	104,096	2,429,016	1,392,209: 23
Totals	235,480	153,611	24,906,553	\$ 56,841,755	\$ 2,462,796	\$ 128,483,225	\$ 48,811,430: \$ 52

Estimates of savings were based on reports of local values in counties baited. During 1938 there was no special work for migratory species and the total losses were estimated at \$33,841,727. During 1939 when control work was carried on for migratory species, the total losses were estimated at \$48,803,370.

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THE FCI PROGRAM IN KANSAS

The following report on the crop insurance program in Kansas is the kind of a report that would be desirable to have from every State. The Washington office has cold figures on the participation and results of the program in each State, but it does not know why these figures assume the proportions they do unless an accurate and comprehensive statement is made such as the following one submitted from Kansas.

1939 Summary

The 1939 crop insurance program in Kansas is now history. The latest reports show that 14,950 policies were issued to Kansas wheat growers insuring their 1939 crop. These policies covered 932,499 acres of wheat. Premium payments in 1939 amounted to 813,061 bushels; 5,640 indemnity claims were approved for payment, amounting to 1,727,752 bushels on 424,498 acres. Losses were paid on crop insurance policies in all counties except Leavenworth and Johnson. Ford County leads the State in the amount of indemnity payments -- 116,359 bushels being paid on 34,327 acres.

The cause of damage or loss was varied throughout the State. In the north central and eastern part of the State the major cause of damage was fall drought. Lack of fall rains resulted in dry seedbeds with insufficient moisture at seeding time to secure a good stand of wheat. In the southwest and south central part of Kansas, there was adequate rainfall, a good stand was obtained, and the wheat went into the winter in the best condition reported in many years. However, severe drought in the spring and early summer months materially reduced the yields and in many cases caused a total loss.

The results of the 1939 program are very satisfactory to the Kansas State and County Agricultural Conservation Committees. Few complaints were received from policy holders in regard to the matter of settlement of their claims or in regard to the crop insurance program as a whole. What little dissatisfaction was expressed was due to the fact that it was not possible in all cases to make indemnity payments in the form of warehouse receipts when requested.

The value of an insurance policy to the farmer and the use that has been made of indemnity payments has been well demonstrated by many stories received from county offices. Some of the uses made of indemnity payments are as follows: Remodeling of kitchen in farm home, purchase of stock cattle and milk cows, starting of poultry flocks and other purchases of livestock, retirement of loan on farm machinery, use of indemnity payments for operating expenses, and the payment of taxes. Aside from the benefit derived by individual farmers, the 1939 crop insurance program has set the ground-work for crop insurance in Kansas that will no doubt show increased results from year to year.

The 1940 Program

Latest figures show that 60,493 Kansas wheat growers have insured their 1940 crop. The applications received cover 2,863,000 acres, with an insured production of 23,790,000 bushels. Premium payments amount to 3,978,000 bushels. In 1939 approximately 8 percent of the work sheet farms having a

wheat-acreage allotment were insured. This year approximately 32 percent of the work sheet farms having a wheat-acreage allotment are covered by crop insurance applications.

The average 1939 premium payment per acre was .9 of a bushel, as compared with 1.4 bushels for 1940. The average insured production per acre on the 1939 applications was 8.4 bushels, as compared with 8.3 bushels on the 1940 applications. Thus, the 1940 average premium rate was .5 of a bushel higher than in 1939 and the average insured production per acre was .1 of a bushel less. This change is probably due to several factors:

1. A more representative group filed crop insurance applications in 1940 than in 1939. A large percentage of the applications filed in 1939 were on the better farms with lower premium rates and higher yields than the average.
2. Increased participation in the central and western part of the State was proportionately greater than in the eastern part of the State. As the premium rates are somewhat higher and the yields somewhat lower in the central and western part of the State than in the eastern part of the State, an increase in the average premium rate and a decrease in the average insured production per acre resulted.

The increase in participation in the crop insurance program in Kansas was expected. Wheat constitutes the major agricultural enterprise in Kansas. The climate that is required to produce a high quality of bread wheat is the kind of climate that makes wheat growing extremely hazardous. The need for crop insurance because of the hazardous conditions under which it is grown would in itself be ample reason for expecting increased participation. Other factors that have contributed to the rapid growth of the crop insurance program in Kansas are as follows:

1. The 1939 program provided an excellent opportunity for presenting crop insurance, thus making it more understandable.
2. The simplification of the 1940 program made it possible to offer to the farmer at the time the application was signed all the terms of his insurance contract.
3. Payment of premiums by means of an advance against payments to be earned under the AAA program. Many 1939 applications were not completed because funds were not available.
4. Concentrated effort in contacting businessmen groups, such as Lion's Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, Banker's Associations, and other similar groups. More effort should be directed in educational matters of this nature. Crop insurance means as much to farming communities as it does to farmers themselves. A farmer will believe more strongly in crop insurance if his banker, his merchant, and other associates also believe in the principles of the program.

FCI Contracts Used to Obtain Credit

The value of collateral assignments to crop insurance contract owners is becoming more evident every day. We have received in the State office at this time (Jan. 19, 1940), some 1,500 collateral assignments. The assign-

ments cover loans made for land payments, interest and operating expenses. The value of the collateral assignment feature of the 1940 contract is demonstrated by the following example:

A Kansas farmer had to meet a land payment the early part of October. The only means he had of raising the money was to borrow it at his local bank. The farmer had his wheat seeded and insured. The banker agreed to loan the amount required for the payment with a collateral assignment and a first mortgage on the wheat crop as security for the loan. The collateral assignment was executed in the county office and forwarded to the State office for approval. Some delay occurred in the handling of the collateral assignment and the day drew near for the land payment. The banker refused to complete the loan until the approved collateral assignment was received. The farmer made a 400-mile round trip drive to the State office in an effort to secure prompt action on the collateral assignment. The Branch Office was contacted by telephone and the collateral assignment mailed to the bank the same day. The farmer, of course, was pleased with this action, as it enabled him to secure a loan from the bank in ample time to meet his land payment.

1941 Program Begins

Preliminary work toward the establishment of 1941 yields and rates is now under way. Representatives of the branch office and the Western Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration have already met with the State office men and the farmer fieldmen in Manhattan, Kans., to consider what revisions might be necessary in 1940 wheat yields and premium rates. The fieldmen are now contacting their county committees and actual work on the establishment of the 1941 yields and premium rates will soon be started.

A definite plan for the 1941 crop insurance educational program is now in operation. Informational leaflets have been mailed, together with a letter of transmittal outlining the participation in the 1940 program in Kansas, to a selected list of banks, businessmen, and representatives of various organizations. A schedule of weekly radio programs over several stations has been started. L. H. Norton presented the first radio program, outlining crop insurance and its relation to the 1940 crop over KSAC, January 12. Weekly radio programs will be given over KSAC, Manhattan, Kans., at 1:10 p.m. every Tuesday.

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DEER DO DAMAGE Although Pennsylvania is one of the oldest states in the Union, it still seems to contain wildlife to a predatory degree. The Corporation paid a loss in Pennsylvania, the partial cause of which was infestation by deer. So the wheat grower involved received some 15 bucks. This loss occurred on the farm of D. C. Goodfellow of Altoona, Pa. His insured production was 18 bushels.

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One hundred and fifty years ago it required 19 people living on the land to support themselves and one person in town. Today, under greatly commercialized and industrialized conditions, one person on the land supports himself, three people in town, and contributes to the support of another person overseas. -- Secretary Wallace.

1940 SPRING WHEAT ACREAGE

TO BE GREATER THAN IN 1939

According to the March 1 crop report of the Agricultural Marketing Service 19,425,000 acres of spring wheat will be seeded this year compared with 17,532,000 acres in 1939, and with 22,344,000 bushels for the 1929-38 average. The Crop Reporting Board of the Agricultural Marketing Service has this to say about prospective spring wheat plantings in 1940:

"The acreage to be seeded to all spring wheat in 1940, as indicated by the reports received from farmers, is 19,425,000 acres. Such an acreage would be about 11 percent larger than the 17,532,000 acres seeded last spring, but last spring's seedings were the lowest in 15 years. These prospective seedings are still about 13 percent below the 10-year (1929-38) average. Increased seedings are indicated for all the important spring wheat States. The principal hard red spring wheat States show an increase of about 9 percent, which represents an absolute acreage increase of about 1 1/3 million acres, the largest acreage increase of any area. In the Pacific Northwest where dry weather prevented intended seedings of winter wheat, present indications point to spring wheat seedings one-third larger than last spring, or an increase of 400,000 acres. In the less important spring wheat States east of the Mississippi River the net change is a decrease of about 2 percent.

"In the total spring wheat acreage indicated for 1940, there are 3,539,000 acres of Durum wheat, and 15,886,000 acres of other spring wheat. The prospective acreage of Durum wheat is 96.4 percent of the 10-year (1929-38) average, while the United States total acreage of other spring wheat is 85.1 percent of average. In the area which grows Durum wheat as well as other spring wheat, the rate of increase indicated is about the same for both, the 1940 acreage for Durum wheat being 109.9 percent and for other spring wheat 108.8 percent of 1939.

"If the abandonment of spring wheat in 1940 is approximately the same as the average of the ten years (1929-38), excluding the abnormal years of 1934 and 1936, the acreages for harvest in 1940 would be: Durum wheat 3,132,000 acres, other spring wheat 13,471,000 acres, and all spring wheat 16,603,000 acres. If the abandonment of winter wheat is about as indicated in the Board's December 1939 report, there would be a total of about 46,000,000 acres of all wheat harvested in 1940. This acreage compares with 53,696,000 acres harvested in 1939; 69,869,000 acres in 1938; 64,422,000 in 1937, and the 10-year (1929-38) average of 56,869,000 acres."

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AND PLEASE SEND

ONE 2-INCH RAIN!

Nobody yet has set up a mail-order house for weather.

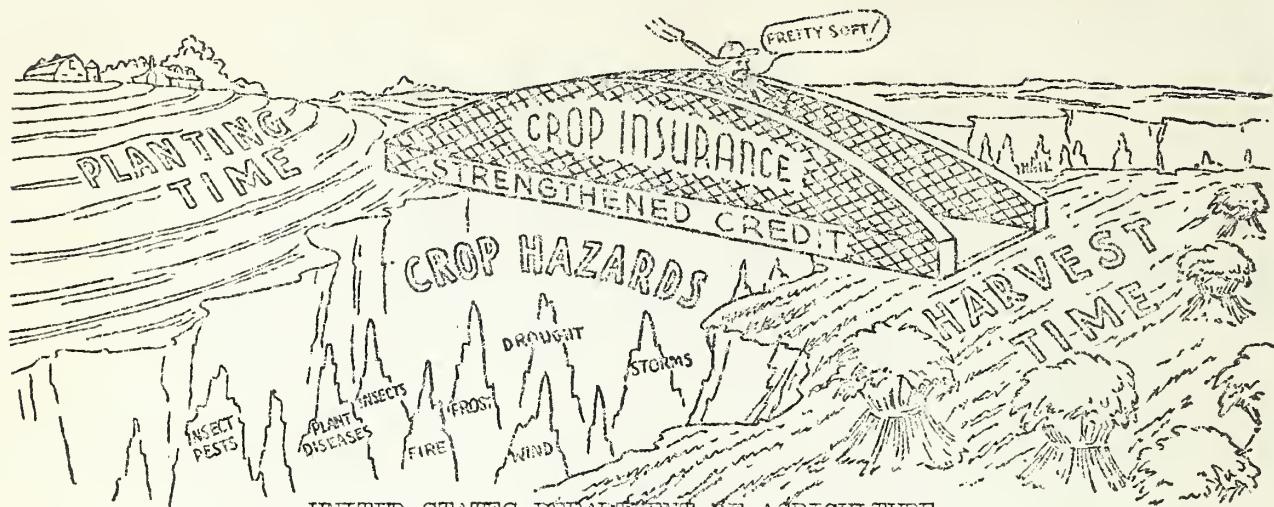
Nor can anyone deliver on order a 2-inch rain out in Kansas or wrap up and mail to anyone a perfect June day. But farmers and consumers can be protected against the hazards of the weather, just as they are protected against the hazards of fire. This is provided by (Federal all-risk crop) insurance. Wheat farmers may insure their crops, just as city people insure their houses.--From the March 1940 Consumers' Guide.

-- f c i c --

AT LAST, ALASKA!

According to the Kansas State office a resident of Alaska is now participating in the crop insurance program. Mr. Glenn Briggs of the Alaskan Reindeer Service, stationed at Teller, Alaska, has filed his application for crop insurance on a farm in Sherman County, Kans.

CROP INSURANCE WILL GET YOU ACROSS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
(Name of Town and State)

Dear Mr. Blank:

As a wheat grower, how good is your credit? Is it good enough to get you across the period between planting and harvest time?

Credit is a problem that especially concerns the wheat farmer because there is such a long space of time between each farm-income period. Planting a wheat crop involves expense at a time when the farm record book shows little, if any, income. Credit based on your crop insurance will help you when you most need help.

In the past it has been hard to borrow money on your next crop because your bank and all others who may loan you money know that growing crops are subject to many hazards.

Here's where all-risk crop insurance will serve you well. Through its credit possibilities it will bridge the gap between planting and harvest. It provides a source of credit that was not available to you until the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation came into being.

Ali-risk crop insurance should help you control your obligations so that they will not rise higher than what you may reasonably expect your annual income from the farm to be.

Any member of your county AAA committee will gladly answer your questions on how to improve your credit standing through all-risk crop insurance.

Very truly yours,

NOTE: Stencils with the above illustration - not the letter - impressed on them are available for use by county committeemen in mailing circular letters to local wheat growers. They may be obtained upon request through the State AAA offices.